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MECHANICS.

254. Proposed by W. J. GREENSTREET, M. A., Editor of The Mathematical Gazette, Stroud, England.

On a smooth horizontal plane are touching each other two balls, equal, uniform, inelastic, spherical, radius x , mass M . A third uniform, smooth, elastic ball, radius y , mass m , is placed with its centre vertically above the point of contact of those balls. Its radius may vary as long as its mass remains m . When is the velocity of each inelastic ball after impact a maximum?

355. Proposed by the late G. B. M. ZERR, Ph. D.

Find the current given by a battery $\frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$ cells arranged in n rows as follows: First row, 1 cell; second row, 2 cells; third row, 3 cells; n th row, n cells. The electromotive force of each cell is E and its resistance r , while the resistances of the wires joining the positive and negative ends of the rows to the poles are as follows: First row, nr ; second row, $(n-1)r$; third row, $(n-2)r$, ..., $(n-2)$ nd row, $3r$; $(n-1)$ st row, $2r$; n th row, r . The resistance of the two wires joining the poles to complete the circuit is r for each.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Dr. A. M. Hildebeitel (Princeton) has been appointed an instructor in mathematics at the University of Pennsylvania.

The Chicago Section of the American Mathematical Society will hold its meeting at Minneapolis on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, December 28th to 30th, 1910. On Wednesday there will be a joint meeting with Section A of the American Association to hear the vice-presidential address of Professor E. W. Brown. On Friday afternoon there will be a joint meeting with Sections A and D to hear the report of the committee on Teaching of Mathematics to Engineering Students, which was appointed two years ago at Chicago. Professor E. V. Huntington, of Harvard University, is chairman of this committee. S.

At the Mathematical Conference, recently held at the University of Chicago, there were reports from several members of committees working under the International Commission on the Teaching of Mathematics. Professor J. W. A. Young, of the University of Chicago, who is one of the American Commissioners, gave an interesting account of the work which has been accomplished to date in other countries and a statement of the general scheme which has been employed in this country. Other speakers for various committees were: Charles Ammerman, McKinley High School, St. Louis, Mo.; Walter W. Hart, University of Wisconsin; Herbert E. Cobb, Lewis Institute, Chicago; John Schobinger, Harvard School, Chicago; Ernest R. Breslich, University High School, Chicago; Hiram B. Loomis, Hyde